Two Offers: The Beauty of Christ or the Pleasures of Sin

We have two offers at our disposal: the beauty of the character of Christ and the Kingdom of God, which involves the crucifixion of the flesh, and the beauty of the kingdom of darkness with the fleeting pleasures of sin.

Most people, when shown how the true Jesus lived, or rather, when shown the beauty of His heart's traits, are not attracted to these "modest traits" and reject them as something to be despised, not interested in imprinting this modest and humbling character, unnoticed, in their character. (But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them... 1 Corinthians 2:14)

Most people remain only with a form of godliness, only with what the Lord did on the cross for them. Lord Jesus calls all people to live as He lived, but people despise the traits of His heart and no one pays attention to them. It is easier to choose the fleeting pleasures of sin and to believe what is preached today, that they are fully forgiven at the cross.

Let us not be deceived, for great will be our disappointment on the day of judgment, the day of God's wrath. (For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness. Romans 1:18)

If, for example, we live in the sin of anger, if anger is still a way of life for us after decades of "repentance," we must understand that we have not been full of admiration for one of the most beautiful traits of His heart, namely, the meekness and long-suffering of Lord Jesus.

Being born again is the beginning of the work of perfection in patience. If we do not love with all our heart, with all our strength, this trait of the Lord's character, God's work of perfection has not begun; we have not yet been accepted as disciples in the school where the patience that Christ had is taught.

All things must be made new, the old things must disappear. (Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17)

Also, if our life is still unchanged regarding righteousness, if we do not admire and love this beautiful trait of Lord Jesus' character, if we are not hungry and thirsty to live in

righteousness as He lived, God’s work of perfection has not begun.

The Word of Scripture speaks very clearly: “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God.” (1 John 3:9-10)

If we disregard the authorities that are from God, if we speak evil, both of rulers and others... if we live in the lusts of the flesh, it means that we are still in the old state, where sin is a way of life, not yet being born of God. (Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God. Romans 13:1)

Personal examination

It is good for each of us to examine ourselves in the light of the Word and ask what kind of new birth we have had. Are we attracted to the beauty of the traits of the Lord Jesus? Are we consciously working to change into the image of Christ? Are the fruits of the Spirit’s work visible in our lives?

Do we seek the Kingdom of righteousness, peace, and love as a treasure? Do we find ourselves among those who have left the things of the world?

Please be honest with yourself, check where you are at this moment. Your eternity depends on this!

Check yourself: Are you in love with the beauty of Christ’s character? Do you want to have it too? Have you made a real covenant of discipleship, of full obedience to Christ? Do you live in righteousness, and is your goal to reach the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ? Are you subject to the authorities ordained by God? Do you avoid paying taxes, do you love the things of the world?

The church is the Body of Christ, it is the school that has in it only disciples of Christ. It was designed by God for the growth and perfection of the saints, this is its purpose. (And he gave some... pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-13)

If you are in an organization that does not aim for real discipleship to resemble Christ, seek a pure assembly, where brothers care for one another and whose goal is the growth and perfection of the saints, so you can grow healthily towards perfection, to reach the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ! (Flee also youthful lusts: but

follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 2 Timothy 2:22)

This post is an excerpt from the booklet "Transformed into the Image of Christ", which you can read in full, free of charge. More studies and resources for spiritual awakening are available at https://www.unmodifiedword.com.